

A-FORCE® 8

MARVEL

THOMPSON
SIQUEIRA
ROSENBERG





A-FORCE

AFTER DEFEATING THE COUNTESS IN OREGON, A-FORCE WAS CALLED BACK TO NEW YORK TO FIGHT OFF A POWERFUL COSMIC THREAT ALONGSIDE THE REST OF EARTH'S HEROES. AFTER THE BATTLE, MEDUSA REVEALED THAT THEY OWED THEIR OVERWHELMING VICTORY TO A NEW INHUMAN NAMED ULYSSES, WHO CLAIMS TO HAVE VISIONS OF THE FUTURE. CAPTAIN MARVEL WAS EAGER TO USE ULYSSES' PREDICTIVE ABILITIES TO STOP OTHER THREATS BEFORE THEY HAPPENED, BUT NOT EVERYONE AGREED WITH HER, AND NOW A-FORCE IS ON THE FRONT LINE OF A SITUATION THAT COULD ESCALATE INTO ALL-OUT CIVIL WAR...

WRITER
KELLY THOMPSON

ARTIST
PAULO SIQUEIRA

COLOR ARTIST
RACHELLE ROSENBERG

LETTERER
VC'S CORY PETIT

PRODUCTION DESIGN
MANNY MEDEROS

COVER
PAULO SIQUEIRA & RACHELLE ROSENBERG

VARIANT COVER
RAHZZAH

ASSISTANT EDITOR
ALANNA SMITH

EDITOR
KATIE KUBERT

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
TOM BREVOORT

EDITOR IN CHIEF
AXEL ALONSO

CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER
JOE QUESADA

PUBLISHER
DAN BUCKLEY

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
ALAN FINE

**PROJECT P.E.G.A.S.U.S.,
MOUNT ATHENA, NEW YORK.
YESTERDAY.**

MEDUSA!
GET JEN OUT
OF THERE!

CAPTAIN MARVEL, SELF-PROCLAIMED
"BOSS OF SPACE," AND A LADY WITH A
WHOLE BOATLOAD OF SUPER-POWERS.
SHE'S LEADING US ON THIS ONE.

MEDUSA, A QUEEN WITH THE
BADASS HAIR AND ATTITUDE TO
MATCH SUCH A TITLE. EVEN SHE'S
LOOKING WORRIED RIGHT NOW.

I CANNOT
GET TO HER!

DAZZLER, A SPARKLY MUTANT
POP-STAR WITH SOME ANGER
ISSUES. SHE'S LEANING ON THAT
ANGER PRETTY HARD RIGHT NOW.

CAROL!
WATCH YOUR
SIX!

SINGULARITY, NONE OF US REALLY
KNOW THE LIMITS OF WHAT SHE
CAN DO, BUT HER SEEMINGLY
ENDLESS HOPE MIGHT BE HER
MOST POWERFUL WEAPON. YEAH,
WE COULD USE MORE HOPE.

--JENNIFER!

SHE-HULK, OUR FEARLESS LEADER, AND A
HULK, WHICH MAKES HER ONE OF THE BIGGEST
BADASSES IN THE KNOWN UNIVERSE.

STRONGER THAN JUST
ABOUT ANYTHING,
WELL-NIGH INVULNERABLE
TO JUST ABOUT ANYTHING...

MISSILE TO THE
CHEST... CAN'T STOP
ME... WHAT, LIKE IT'S
MY FIRST DAY...?

BUT "JUST ABOUT ANYTHING"
ISN'T "LITERALLY ANYTHING," AND
IT DOESN'T MEAN "THANOS."

AND TODAY, NOT
BEING INVULNERABLE TO
THANOS MATTERS.

IT MATTERS A
GREAT DEAL.

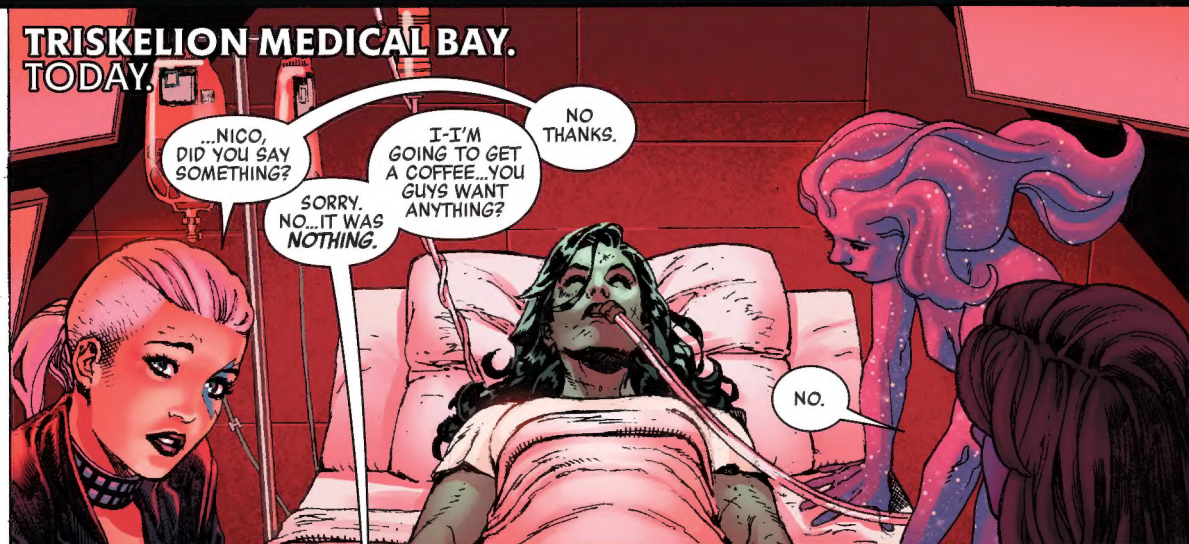
JEN!





NICO...?

TRISKELION MEDICAL BAY. TODAY.



AND THEN THERE'S ME.
NICO MINORU. WITCH.
USELESS POWERS THAT
WERE TOTALLY UNABLE
TO SAVE MY FRIEND
FROM A BLOW THAT
MIGHT KILL HER.





--OH.

YOU'RE **MISTY KNIGHT**.

I AM.

MISTY KNIGHT, ALSO A HERO FOR HIRE, CAPTAIN AMERICA'S PARTNER, VALKYRIOR, DAUGHTER OF THE DRAGON AND POSSESSOR OF A ROBOT ARM.

AND YOU LIKE MY ARM.

BASICALLY, SHE'S A **BADASS**.

I REALLY DO. I FIGURE THOSE OF US WITH MISSING LIMBS REPLACED BY SUPER HERO SHENANIGANS GOTTA STICK TOGETHER.

THAT MAKES SENSE.

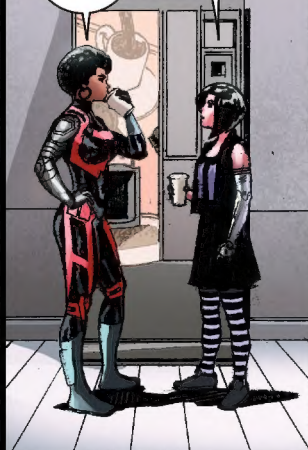
SNIIP

THIS COFFEE IS **TRULY** TERRIBLE.

YOU'D THINK... "MOST ADVANCED MEDICAL FACILITY IN THE WORLD"... THEY MIGHT BE ABLE TO MANAGE GOOD COFFEE. BUT **NOPE**.

HEH. I LIKE THAT.

GUESS COFFEE IS MORE **ART** THAN SCIENCE.



HOW IS SHE-HULK?

IT'S BAD.

T-THEY'RE NOT REALLY SURE SHE'S GOING TO **MAKE IT**. SHE'S HARD TO TREAT... SOMETHING ABOUT **GAMMA STUFF**. I DUNNO, BUT THEY'RE SCARED... YOU CAN SEE IT IN THEIR EYES.

I'M SORRY.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO.

WELL, YOU'RE HERE. SEEMS LIKE YOU **DO** KNOW.

MISTY, C'MON! WE GOTTA GO. WHEELS UP IN FIVE.

SORRY. THAT'S ME.

HANG IN THERE, NICO.

THANKS.



ANYTIME. US **ARM TWINS** GOTTA STICK TOGETHER.

CLINK



GO **ARM TWINS**!

HEH. GO **ARM TWINS**.

--CAROL, THIS IS **CRAZY**. THIS HAS GONE TOO FAR. THANOS HAS ALREADY **KILLED** WAR MACHINE, AND NOW JEN IS...I MEAN **LOOK** AT HER.

I **AM** LOOKING, ALISON.

THAT'S NOT HOW IT FEELS. IT FEELS LIKE YOU'RE TAKING THIS INHUMAN PRECOG'S PREDICTIVE VISIONS TO THE **EXTREME** WHILE A FRIEND WHO FOLLOWED YOU INTO BATTLE LIES ON WHAT COULD BE HER **DEATH BED**.

THAT'S NOT...

THIS IS WHAT JEN **WANTED**. HER LAST WORDS TO ME BEFORE SHE LOST CONSCIOUSNESS WERE TO FIGHT. TO NOT LET TONY DICTATE OUR FUTURE.

THAT'S NOT ACTUALLY TRUE.

WHAT?! YOU WEREN'T EVEN **THERE**.

ACTUALLY, I **WAS**. JUST BECAUSE YOU AND TONY STARK WERE TOO **PUFFED UP** TO NOTICE ANYONE EXCEPT FOR EACH OTHER--

I THINK YOU MEAN TOO BUSY **GRIEVING**, ALISON.

FINE. WHATEVER YOU WANT TO CALL IT. I **WAS** THERE, OR CLOSE ENOUGH AT LEAST THAT I HEARD WHAT JEN SAID.

GOOD. THEN YOU HEARD HER SAY, "**IT'S OUR FUTURE, CAROL. NOT HIS. FIGHT FOR IT.**"

AND HOW DO WE REALLY KNOW SHE WAS TALKING ABOUT TONY? FOR ALL WE KNOW, "**HIS**" COULD HAVE MEANT THANOS. HELL, IT'S PROBABLY THE LAST THING SHE REMEMBERS, GETTING CREAMED BY THANOS.

YOU'RE PLAYING WITH SEMANTICS HERE, ALISON--

THE POINT IS, WE CAN'T REALLY KNOW FOR SURE--

I KNOW.



I'M SORRY, CAROL, BUT YOU **DON'T** KNOW FOR SURE **WHAT** SHE MEANT. NONE OF US CAN KNOW.

PERSONALLY, I HAVE A HARD TIME BELIEVING THAT JENNIFER WALTERS, ATTORNEY AT LAW, WHO SURELY BELIEVES IN THINGS LIKE **DUE PROCESS**, IS UP FOR ARRESTING PEOPLE FOR CRIMES THEY HAVE NOT EVEN **COMMITTED**.



I GET IT. YOU'RE DEVOTED TO THIS PATH AND YOU FEEL LIKE YOU CAN'T REVERSE COURSE NOW, BUT WE NEED TO TAKE IT SLOW, NOT DOUBLE DOWN ON **ARRESTING INNOCENT PEOPLE**.

SHE WENT **WITH ME** TO FIGHT THANOS. SHE OBVIOUSLY--



SO WHAT?! SO DID I!

MAYBE SHE WENT WITH YOU BECAUSE SHE'S YOUR **FRIEND**. BECAUSE SHE'S A SUPER HERO, BECAUSE YOU WERE FIGHTING FREAKING **THANOS**. SHE KNEW YOU NEEDED HELP. IT'S WHY **WE ALL WENT**.

HELL, I WENT AND **I DON'T AGREE**.



WELL, I AGREE WITH YOU, CAROL.

JEN BELIEVED IN THIS.

OH, OF COURSE YOU AGREE, MEDUSA. ULYSSES IS **YOUR** PET INHUMAN. I'M SURE IF HIS NEXT VISION WAS THAT ALL MUTANTS HAD TO BE **WIPE OUT** FOR THE GOOD OF THE WORLD, YOU'D BE FIRST TO VOLUNTEER.

YOU'D BE DROPPING BOMBS ON WESTCHESTER...OR **WHEREVER** THE HELL MY PEOPLE ARE THESE DAYS, WITHOUT A SECOND THOUGHT.



YOU GUYS... **WHAT IS GOING ON?**



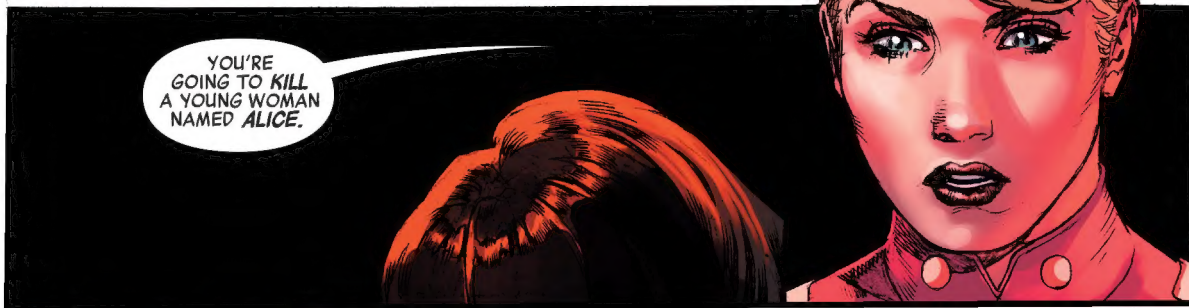
ARE YOU GOING TO TELL HER, OR DO YOU WANT ME TO?



NICO...ULYSSES, THAT INHUMAN WHO HAD THE VISION ABOUT THANOS ATTACKING PROJECT P.E.G.A.S.U.S., HAS HAD **ANOTHER** VISION.

HE SAW THAT YOU...

WHAT...?



YOU'RE GOING TO KILL A YOUNG WOMAN NAMED ALICE.



THAT'S... THAT'S **INSANE**... I-I DON'T EVEN **KNOW** ANYONE NAMED ALICE.

CAROL, YOU **KNOW** ME, I'M NOT GOING TO KILL **ANYONE**. I'M NOT A KILLER.

I KNOW. I'M SURE IT'S JUST A MISUNDERSTANDING.



MAYBE IT IS LIKE IT WAS WITH COUNTESS, **MIND CONTROL** OR SOMETHING.

EXACTLY. WE JUST HAVE TO FIGURE OUT WHAT'S GOING ON.

NICO, I NEED YOU TO COME WITH ME AND WE'LL GET IT ALL STRAIGHTENED OUT, OKAY?



SHE WANTS TO **ARREST** YOU, NICO.

DAMMIT.



WHAT?/ IS THAT WHAT THIS IS?/

NICO, PLEASE, YOU GOTTA TRUST ME.



I'LL TAKE **CARE** OF YOU.

NOTHING BAD IS GOING TO HAPPEN, JUST COME WITH ME AND WE'LL FIGURE THIS OUT, **TOGETHER**.



BACK
UP.

=LUNGH=

I'M SORRY,
BUT I'M A
RUNAWAY. I DIDN'T
GET THAT WAY BY
ACCIDENT.

PEOPLE I
TRUSTED HAVE
CONSTANTLY TRIED
TO KILL ME. MY FRIENDS
HAVE BEEN HURT--
SOMETIMES KILLED--
ALL AT THE HANDS
OF PEOPLE WE
TRUSTED.

SO, YEAH.
I DON'T THINK
I'LL BE LETTING
YOU ARREST ME
TODAY, CAPTAIN
MARVEL.



THIRTY EIGHT POINT
ZERO TWO TWO SEVEN NINE
NINE FIGURES A AND NEGATIVE
ONE ON SEVEN POINT FOUR SIX
NINE EIGHT TWO ON
FIGURES W.



DAMN.

ALISON,
IT DIDN'T
HAVE TO GO
THIS WAY.

OF COURSE
IT DID. BESIDES, IF
YOU CAN REALLY SEE
THE FUTURE, THEN YOU
SHOULD HAVE KNOWN IT
WAS GOING TO HAPPEN
THIS WAY, RIGHT?

38.022799° N,
-107.669820° W,
A.K.A. OURAY,
COLORADO.



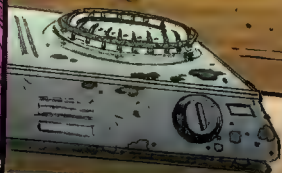
YOU DON'T LEAD A
TEAM CALLED THE
RUNAWAYS WITHOUT
GETTING VERY
GOOD AT, WELL,
RUNNING AWAY.

AND THAT INCLUDES
HAVING AT LEAST ONE
SAFE HOUSE ALWAYS
ON STANDBY.

BEING A RUNAWAY IS NOT
EXACTLY A GLAMOROUS
LIFE. AS SUCH, SAFE HOUSES
ARE NOT GLAMOROUS, EITHER.

THEY'RE OFTEN NOT EVEN
HOUSES. AND SOMETIMES
THEY'RE CAVES. YEAH, WE
LIVED IN A CAVE FOR A
WHILE, ONCE UPON A TIME.

THIS ONE IS *TECHNICALLY*
A HOUSE. THOUGH *SHACK*
FEELS MORE ACCURATE.



AH, HOME.
CRAP HOME.



NESTLED IN THE MOUNTAINS,
AS FAR OFF THE GRID AS I'M
WILLING TO GO THESE DAYS
(SERIOUSLY, I'M WAY TOO OLD
TO LIVE IN CAVES ANYMORE).



THERE ALSO JUST SO
HAPPENS TO BE A PERFECT
PLACE HERE FOR CLEARING
MY HEAD AND FIGURING
OUT MY NEXT MOVE.

THE AMAZING
HOT SPRINGS
RIGHT IN
THE CENTER
OF THIS.





QUIET TOWN?



WELL, MY "SAFE HOUSE" IS OFFICIALLY UNSAFE

WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON HERE?!

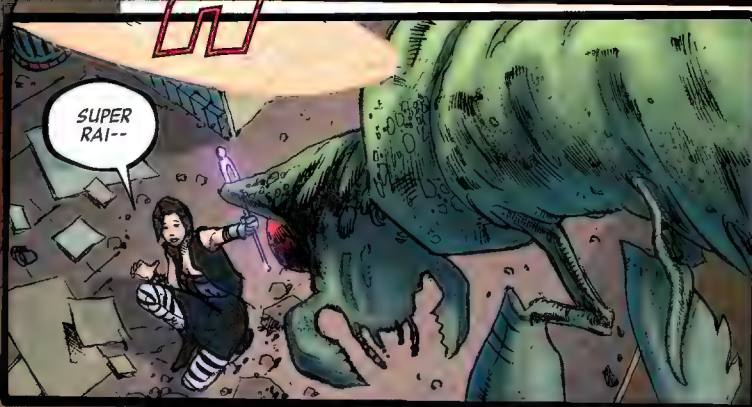
AH--!

GAH!

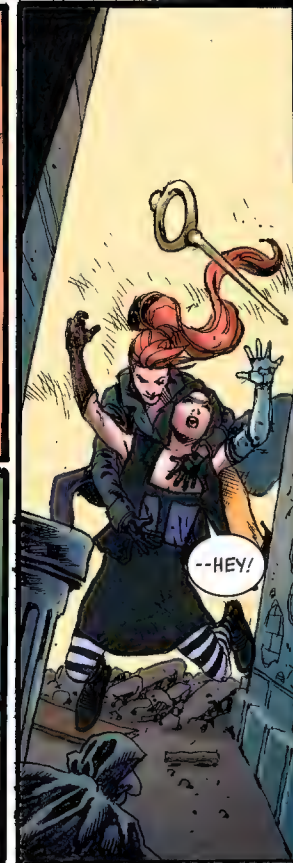


RUNAWAY MONSTER BUG, COMING THROUGH, DARLING!

?!



SUPER RAI--



--HEY!



LEAVE THIS ONE TO THE FANCY BLOODSTONE HAND!



SORRY ABOUT THE TACKLE, DARLING. NON-FATAL BLASTS ONLY, I'M AFRAID. WASN'T SURE WHAT THAT WHAMMY YOU WERE COOKING UP WAS GOING TO DO...



...ELSA BLOODSTONE. MONSTER HUNTER EXTRAORDINAIRE, LUV.

YEAH, I KNOW WHO YOU ARE...AND I KNOW YOUR BROTHER, CULLEN.

OF COURSE YOU DO.

YEAH, CAN YOU GET OFF ME NOW?



IF YOU INSIST.

I'M--

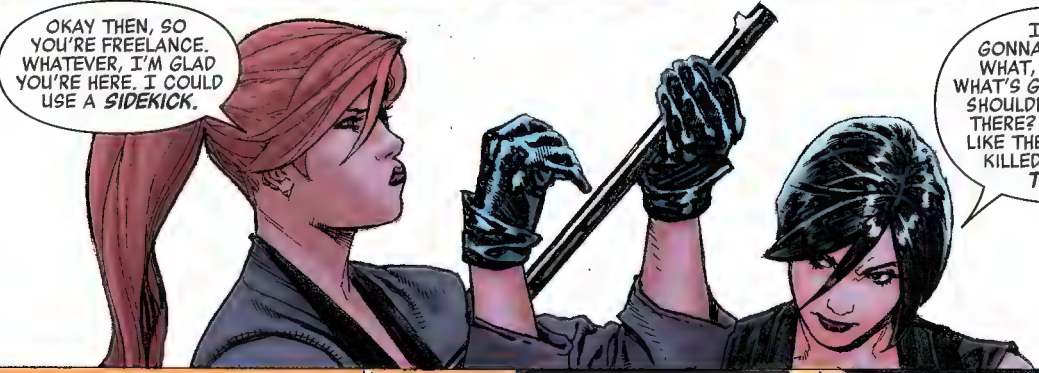
I KNOW WHO YOU ARE, NICO MINORU. YOU'RE A WITCH.

YOU WERE ONE OF THOSE RUNAWAY KIDS.

AREN'T YOU RUNNING WITH SHE-HULK AND CAP NOW?

NOT ANYMORE.

AND WHY DOES EVERYONE FREAKING KNOW WHO I AM?



OKAY THEN, SO YOU'RE FREELANCE. WHATEVER, I'M GLAD YOU'RE HERE. I COULD USE A SIDEKICK.

I'M NOT GONNA...YOU KNOW WHAT, NEVER MIND. WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? SHOULDN'T WE GET IN THERE? PEOPLE LOOK LIKE THEY'RE GETTING KILLED BY THOSE... THINGS.



THEY'RE NOT DYING, THEY'RE GETTING INFECTED...

...AND TURNING INTO THOSE BUGS. I'M STILL SORTA HOPING WE CAN TURN THEM BACK.

MAYBE.



SO, SINCE I CAN'T DO MY USUAL THING-- KILLING EVERYTHING THAT MOVES--WE REGROUP, COME UP WITH A PLAN.

AND YOU, NICO MINORU, ARE MY NEW PLAN.

GAH. GROSS.

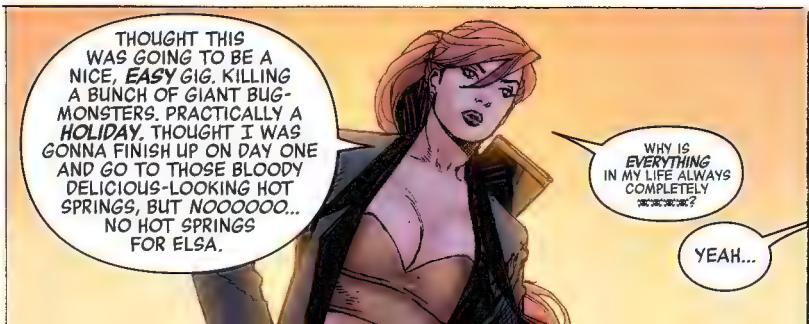
I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT WAS A PERSON.



STILL IS, DARLING. SOMEWHERE IN THERE.

DAMN.

...IS MORE LIKE IT.



THOUGHT THIS WAS GOING TO BE A NICE, EASY GIG. KILLING A BUNCH OF GIANT BUG-MONSTERS. PRACTICALLY A HOLIDAY. THOUGHT I WAS GONNA FINISH UP ON DAY ONE AND GO TO THOSE BLOODY DELICIOUS-LOOKING HOT SPRINGS, BUT NOOOOOO... NO HOT SPRINGS FOR ELSA.

WHY IS EVERYTHING IN MY LIFE ALWAYS COMPLETELY...?

YEAH...

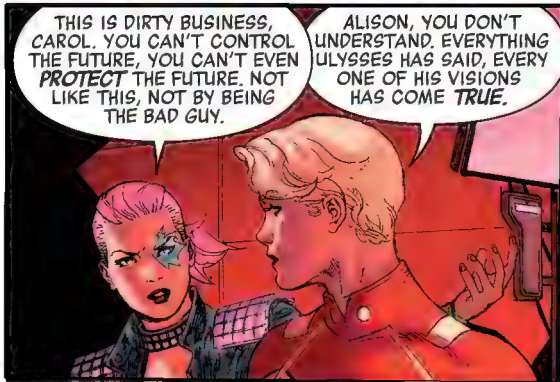


"...TELL ME ABOUT IT."

SINGULARITY, CAN YOU FIND NICO?

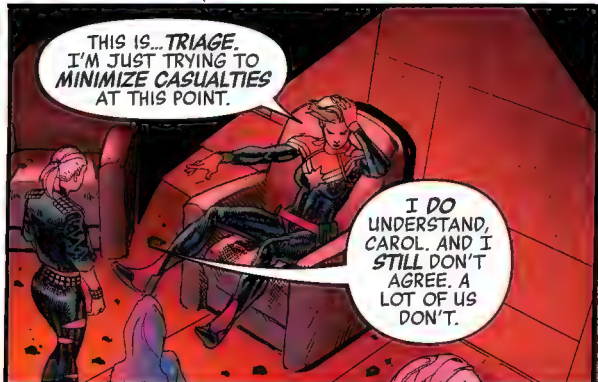
I... I...

YOU CAN'T ASK HER TO DO THAT.



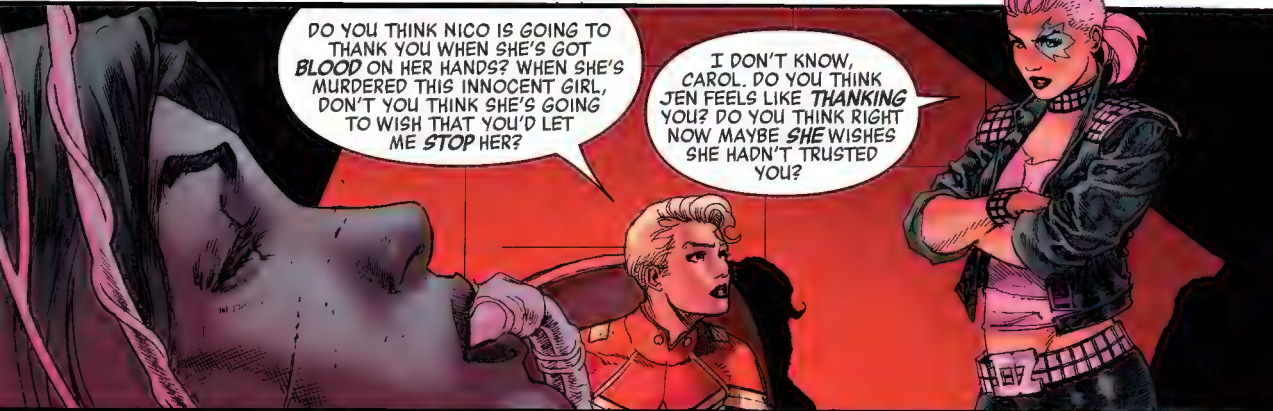
THIS IS DIRTY BUSINESS, CAROL. YOU CAN'T CONTROL THE FUTURE, YOU CAN'T EVEN PROTECT THE FUTURE. NOT LIKE THIS, NOT BY BEING THE BAD GUY.

ALISON, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND. EVERYTHING ULYSSES HAS SAID, EVERY ONE OF HIS VISIONS HAS COME TRUE.



THIS IS... **TRIAGE**. I'M JUST TRYING TO MINIMIZE CASUALTIES AT THIS POINT.

I DO UNDERSTAND, CAROL. AND I STILL DON'T AGREE. A LOT OF US DON'T.

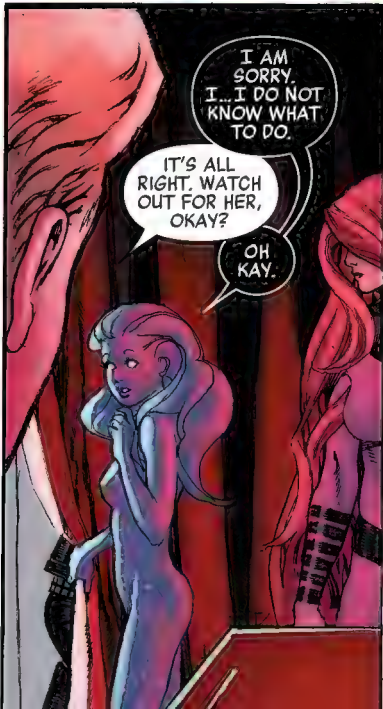


DO YOU THINK NICO IS GOING TO THANK YOU WHEN SHE'S GOT BLOOD ON HER HANDS? WHEN SHE'S MURDERED THIS INNOCENT GIRL, DON'T YOU THINK SHE'S GOING TO WISH THAT YOU'D LET ME STOP HER?

I DON'T KNOW, CAROL. DO YOU THINK JEN FEELS LIKE THANKING YOU? DO YOU THINK RIGHT NOW MAYBE SHE WISHES SHE HADN'T TRUSTED YOU?



C'MON, BLUE. YOU'RE WITH ME. WE'RE OUTTA THIS BAND.



I AM SORRY. I... I DO NOT KNOW WHAT TO DO.

IT'S ALL RIGHT. WATCH OUT FOR HER, OKAY?

OH KAY.



WHERE ARE WE GOING, ALISON?

DO YOU WANT TO HELP NICO?

YES.

THAT'S WHAT WE'RE GOING TO DO.

THOSE WERE COORDINATES SHE WHISPERED. AND WHEN YOUR ENTIRE POWER IS TO TURN SOUND INTO ENERGY, YOU HEAR VERY, VERY WELL.

I KNOW WHERE SHE IS.

"WE'RE GONNA
GO HELP OUR GIRL."

YOU CANNOT
LET ALISON'S WORDS
GET TO YOU, CAROL. SHE
IS UPSET. SHE DID NOT
MEAN TO STRIKE SO
CLOSE TO YOUR
HEART.

YES,
SHE DID.

AND
MAYBE SHE'S
RIGHT...

YOU CANNOT
THINK LIKE THAT.
NOT RIGHT NOW. I
KNOW YOU HAVE LOST
MUCH, CAROL, BUT
WHAT MIGHT YOU... **ALL**
OF US... HAVE LOST IF
ULYSSES' VISION OF
THANOS HAD COME
TO PASS?

TO BE A
GREAT LEADER, ONE
MUST MAKE GREAT
SACRIFICES. THAT IS
SOMETHING ALISON IS IN
THE ENVIABLE POSITION OF
NOT HAVING TO THINK
ABOUT. SHE HAS THE
LUXURY OF
FOLLOWING HER
HEART.

WHEN YOU
LEAD, YOU DO
NOT HAVE THAT
LUXURY.

...I
KNOW.

LET US CONCENTRATE ON THE
PROBLEM AT HAND. WE MUST FIND
NICO AND STOP HER BEFORE
INNOCENT LIVES ARE LOST. BOTH
NICO'S **AND** THE LIFE OF
THIS ALICE PERSON.

SO HOW
CAN WE TRACK
NICO?

I THINK HER
SPELL MIGHT HAVE
BEEN COORDINATES,
BUT I COULDN'T
MAKE THEM
OUT.

WAIT.

WE'RE THINKING
BACKWARDS. WE DON'T
HAVE TO KNOW WHERE NICO
WOULD GO. WE ONLY HAVE
TO KNOW WHERE ALICE IS. WE
GO TO ALICE, AND IF ULYSSES
IS RIGHT, NICO WILL
END UP THERE NO
MATTER WHAT.

VERY CLEVER. BUT ULYSSES' VISION DID
NOT TAKE PLACE IN A HOME, OR EVEN IN
A TOWN. IT WAS AN ABANDONED
SILVER MINE OF SOME KIND.

HE DID SAY HE
SAW A **SMALL TOWN**
THOUGH... I WILL MAKE
SOME CALLS.

GOOD IDEA.
I'LL ARRANGE
A JET...

...JEN'LL
BE ALONE.
WHAT IF SHE
WAKES UP?

I... I
DON'T WANT
HER TO BE
ALONE.

I WILL
GET SOMEONE
TO COME SIT
WITH
HER. SOMEONE
SHE **KNOWS**.

...OKAY.

MEANWHILE IN OURAY, COLORADO.

HOW ARE YOU DOING THIS IN HEELS?

AGES OF PRACTICE, DARLING.

IT'S RIDICULOUS.

YES, WELL, YOU'RE VERY YOUNG. TOMAYTO, TOMAHTO. BLAH BLAH BLAH.

I DON'T THINK ANY OF THAT EVEN MADE SENSE.

SMACK

OUCH. C'MON.

WHERE ARE WE EVEN GOING?

SAFE HOUSE OF THE WOMAN WHO HIRED ME. THEY'RE HIDING PEOPLE. I WAS TRYING TO FIND A WAY TO GET THEM OUT OF TOWN. SPOILER ALERT: I HAVEN'T FOUND A WAY OUT.

SO...HOW'D YOU GET YOUR--

FANCY BLOODSTONE HAND?

MY DAD RIPPED OFF MY FIRST HAND.

YOU?

POSSESSED BEST FRIEND RIPPED MY ARM OFF.

WE SHOULD START A CLUB.

WE COULD CALL IT...BADASS CHICKS WHO LOST APPENDAGES THANKS TO JERKS.

B.C.W.I.A.T.J.? CATCHY.

I KNOW AT LEAST ONE MORE MEMBER WE COULD INVITE...

MISTY KNIGHT.

HEH.

WE'RE ALMOST TO THE CROWDED BIT. YOU READY?

I GUESS.

YOU KNOW, YOU HELP ME SOLVE THIS NIGHTMARE REAL QUICK, NICO, AND I STILL HAVE TIME TO GET IN THOSE HOT SPRINGS.

YOU KNOW THEY CALL THIS PLACE THE SWITZERLAND OF AMERICA?

YES. I KNOW. YOU'RE VERY OBSESSED WITH THE HOT SPRINGS.

I DIDN'T EVEN GET A DAMN TOE IN.

THOSE BUGS.

YOU HAVE A REAL MOUTH ON YOU.

YOU HAVE NO IDEA, KID.



BLOODY HELL. THIS STREET WAS EMPTY BEFORE, NOW IT'S TEAMING WITH BUGS AND PEOPLE.

SO...BASICALLY WE GOTTA GET THROUGH THIS MESS WITHOUT KILLING ANYONE.

IF YOU TELL ME WHERE WE'RE GOING, I CAN TELEPORT US THERE...NO NEED TO FIGHT THROUGH "THIS MESS."

PART OF ME LOVES THAT PLAN.

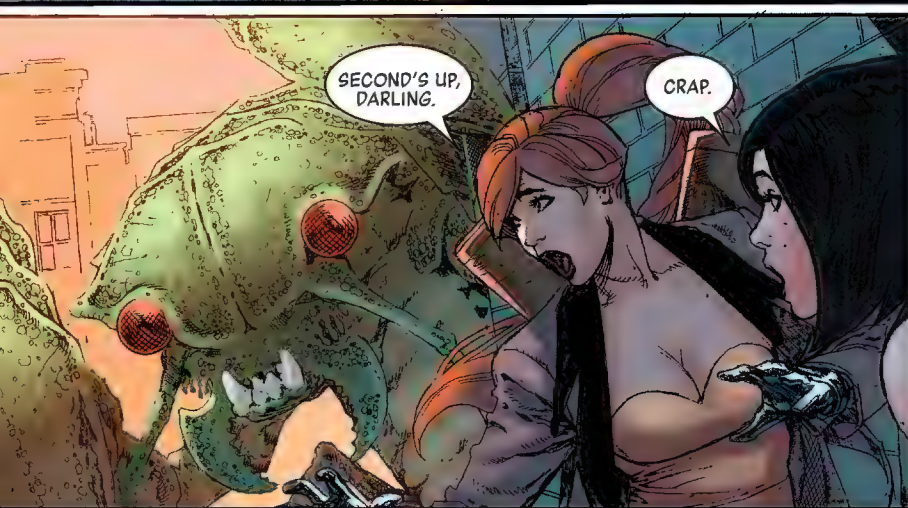
AND PART OF YOU CAN'T WAIT FOR THE FIGHT.

WELL, YES, BUT I MEANT THAT WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE BLOODY HEROES, SO INSTEAD OF TELEPORTING AROUND THE PROBLEM, WE SHOULD PROBABLY TRY TO RESCUE SOME OF THESE IDIOTS.



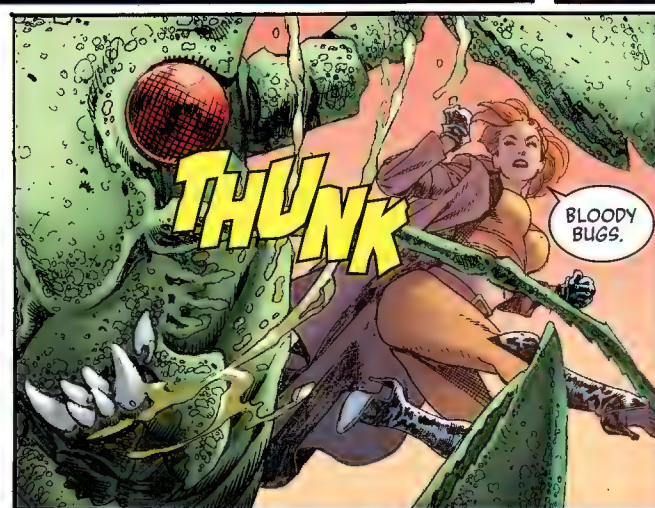
YOU GOT ANY FANCY MAGIC TRICKS UP YOUR SLEEVE FOR THE "BE BIG DAMN HEROES" PLAN?

GIMME A SECOND.



SECOND'S UP, DARLING.

CRAP.



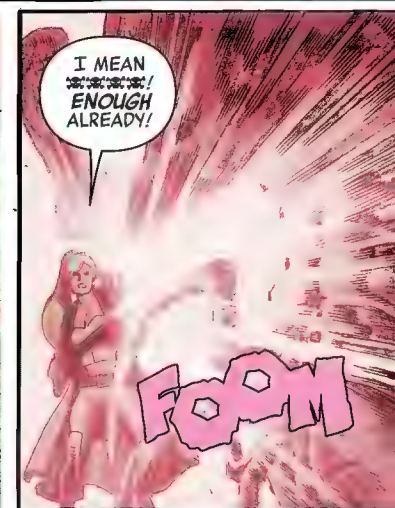
THUNK

BLOODY BUGS.

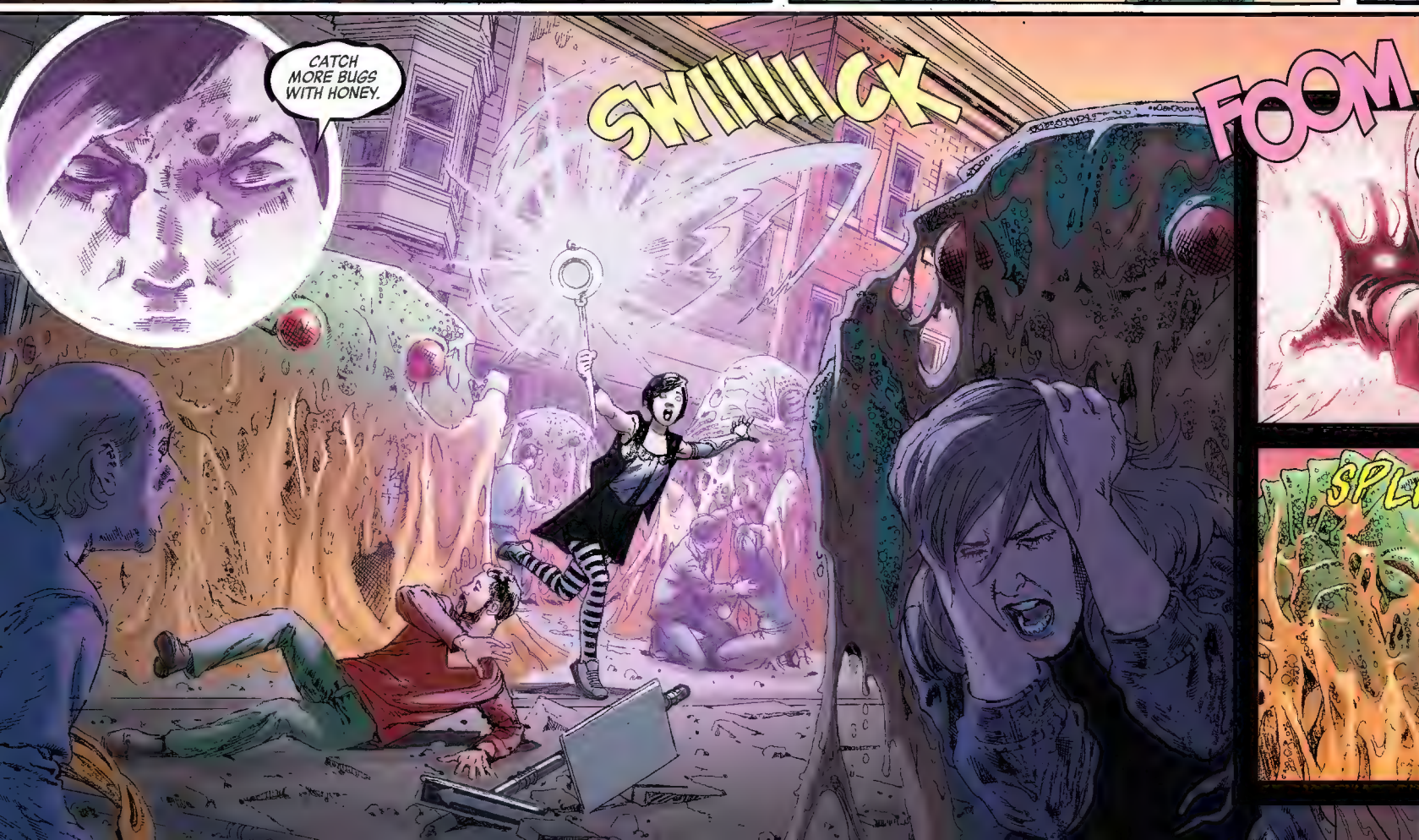


I WASN'T EVEN A FAN IN THE FIRST PLACE. NOW, UGH.

SMACK



I MEAN ENOUGH ALREADY!



CATCH MORE BUGS WITH MONEY.

SWIIIIICK

FOOM



I KNEW I LIKED YOU, MINORU!



GIVE ME CROSS STREETS AND I CAN GET US OUT OF HERE. ALL OF US.



SPLAT

OAK STREET AND SEVENTH OUGHTA DO IT.



FOOF



KNOCK
KNOCK

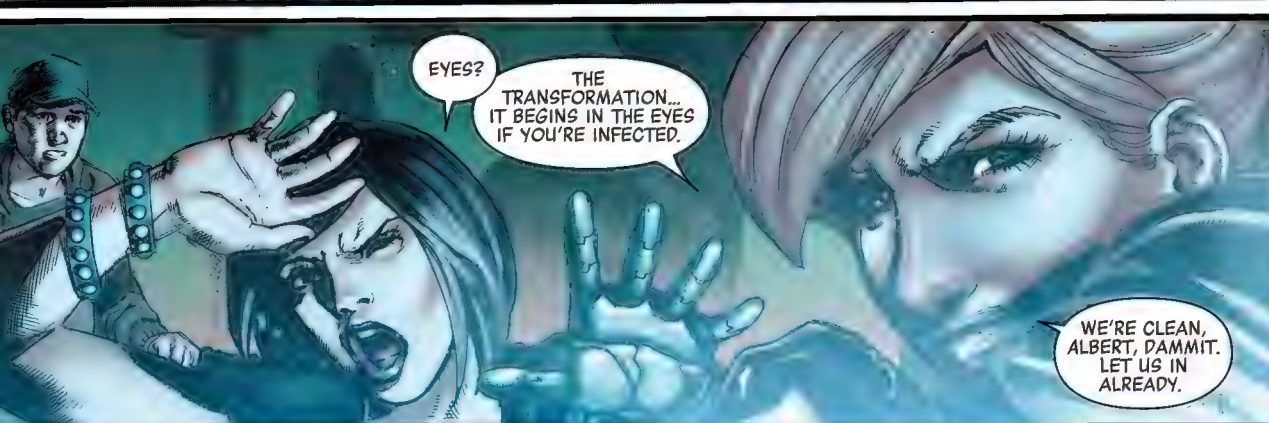
JANINE...
JANINE, IT'S
ELSA. OPEN THE
DOOR.

HURRRRRY
UP.



JANINE.
***** KILL
THE LIGHTS, I
CAN'T BLOODY
SEE.

LET US
SEE YOUR
EYES!



EYES?

THE
TRANSFORMATION...
IT BEGINS IN THE EYES
IF YOU'RE INFECTED.

WE'RE CLEAN,
ALBERT, DAMMIT.
LET US IN
ALREADY.



ANNA, TAKE
THESE PEOPLE INTO
THE BASEMENT WITH THE
OTHERS, GET THEM SOME
WATER AND BLANKETS...
BUT MAKE SURE TO CHECK
ALL THEIR EYES
CAREFULLY.



DID YOU
FIND HER,
ELSA?

JANINE. GIVE A
GIRL A MINUTE TO
GET SORTED.

THIS IS NICO
MINORU. SHE'S
BRILL. NOBODY
MESS WITH
HER.

GOOD TO
HAVE YOU,
NICO.

UH...
THANKS.



IT'S
GOTTEN WORSE,
ELSA.

OF COURSE IT'S
GOTTEN BLOODY WORSE,
ALBERT. THESE THINGS
DON'T GET BETTER WITHOUT
THE DAMN NUCLEAR OPTION.
I TOLD YOU THAT ALREADY.



WE'RE NOT
DOING THE NUCLEAR
OPTION, ELSA. THESE
PEOPLE ARE INNOCENT
VICTIMS!

I KNOW,
JANINE, I KNOW.
I'M JUST SAYING. MY
LIFE WOULD BE PEACHES
AND CREAM
IF ONLY I DIDN'T CARE.

CARING, MAN.
ABSOLUTE WORST.



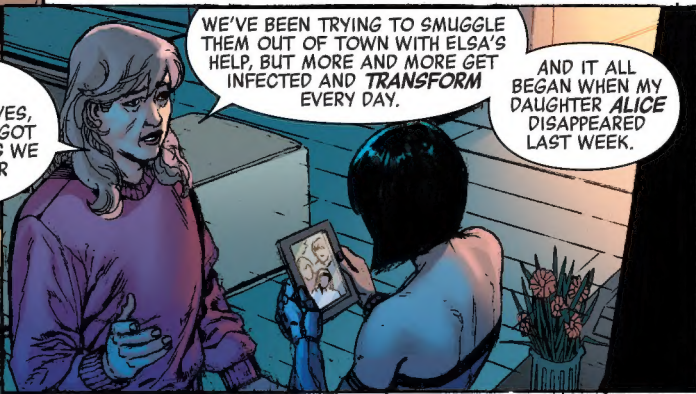
I BROUGHT
BLOODY NICO,
DIDN'T I?!

SO, YOU'RE
BACK HERE WITH A
BUNCH OF PEOPLE WHO
COULD BE INFECTED, YOU
DIDN'T FIND MY DAUGHTER,
YOU DIDN'T FIND A WAY TO
GET OUT OF TOWN
AND YOU DIDN'T
FIND HELP.



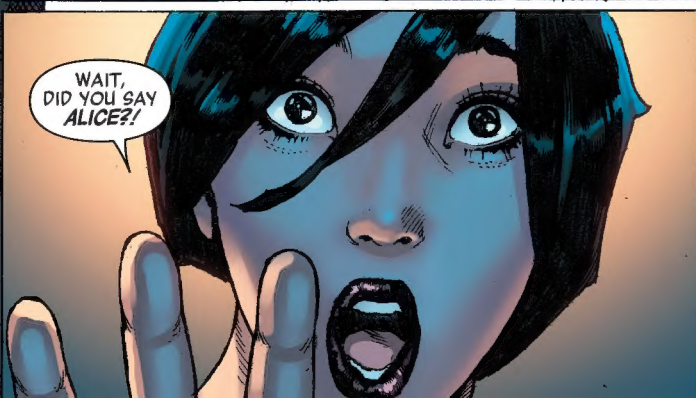
CAN
SOMEONE WHO'S
NOT ELSA PLEASE
EXPLAIN TO ME
WHAT'S GOING
ON HERE?

WE BARELY
KNOW WHAT'S
GOING ON OURSELVES,
I'M AFRAID. WE'VE GOT
AS MANY PEOPLE AS WE
CAN HOLD IN OUR
BASEMENT.

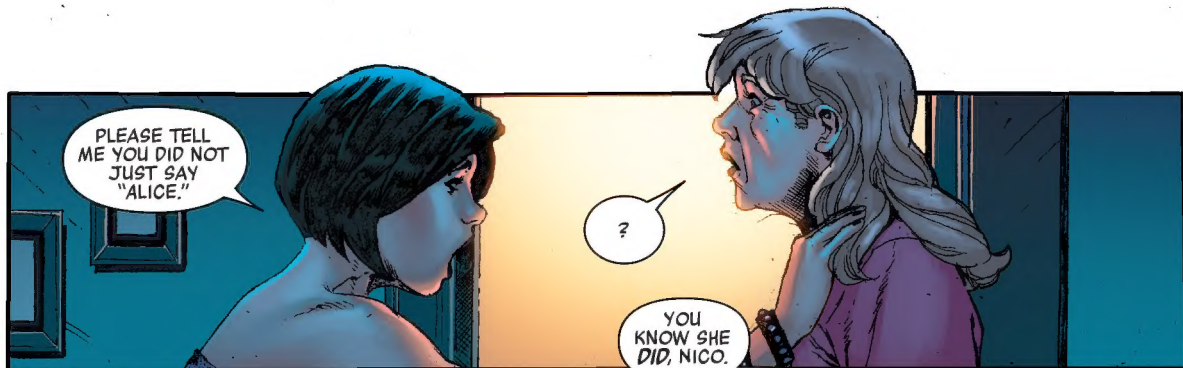


WE'VE BEEN TRYING TO SMUGGLE
THEM OUT OF TOWN WITH ELSA'S
HELP, BUT MORE AND MORE GET
INFECTED AND TRANSFORM
EVERY DAY.

AND IT ALL
BEGAN WHEN MY
DAUGHTER ALICE
DISAPPEARED
LAST WEEK.



WAIT,
DID YOU SAY
ALICE?!



NEXT: WITH FRIENDS LIKE THESE, WHO NEEDS ENEMIES?!

A-LETTERS PAGE

(IN MY BEST SHANG TSUNG VOICE) IT HAS BEGUNNN! CIVIL WAR II HAS COME TO A-FORCE! WELCOME, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, TO THE MAIN EVENT! NOW HERE'S KELLY TO BICYCLE-KICK THE HELL OUT OF YOUR LETTERS...TO A FLAWLESS VICTORY.



Hello, my beloved A-Corps! Please join me in welcoming Paulo Siqueira and Rachelle Rosenberg as the new art team for our CIVIL WAR II arc. Speaking of CIVIL WAR II, I hope you are all enjoying the pain and suffering so far! What is a civil war about if not breaking apart families, right? And our ladies have become a tight-knit family in recent months, so this one is gonna be painful. But through pain we get growth...or something like that! And now, on to the letters...where hopefully there are none (yet) yelling at me for killing Dazzler-Thor!

Hello Marvel,

First, I want to say that when I first heard about the idea for A-FORCE before SECRET WARS even began, I fell in love with the idea. Then, with the miniseries tie-in to SECRET WARS, I fell in love with the team, and now five more issues into the Prime Universe, A-FORCE is my absolute favorite thing to come out of Marvel whatsoever.

I never knew who Nico Minoru was before, but I love magic users (I'm a big Doctor Strange fan, too) and the idea that she can only cast spells with a word once is genius storytelling and I hope that idea gets explored later on, too. So now that A-FORCE is starting to make a name for itself, all we have to do is convince Kevin Feige to open up a slot for it in the MCU!

Thanks for the best comic experience I've ever had,
Christopher Dennis

Hey, Christopher!

Thanks so much for making us number one...we know the competition is fierce these days. I'm pretty new to Marvel Comics, so someone saying I'm part of their best comic experience ever is pretty awesome to hear. I obviously agree with you about A-FORCE being the best, but I'm just a tad biased.

The great Brian K. Vaughan, who originally created Nico Minoru in his excellent book, RUNAWAYS, was indeed a comics-making genius, and I'm delighted to get to piggyback off his genius and create new stories for

Nico. As for an A-FORCE movie...that would be just about the coolest thing ever. Maybe someday!

Hi A-FORCE team!

Okay, I'll just admit it—I came to A-FORCE because of Dazzler. I've been a fan of hers since the beginning (yes, since the 80s). I'm mostly pleased with your treatment of her so far. I'm overjoyed that you've finally delivered her from that tragic ripped-up punker dress and black hair catastrophe that was presumably meant to reflect her brokenness. Though I really loved the outfit she had in X-TREME X-MEN, I'm very much okay with her dressing like the pop star she is (she looks a LOT like Pink! now).

And speaking of X-TREME X-MEN, please don't forget that Alison was once a great team leader and badass hero in that comic run and in the AGE OF APOCALYPSE finale. I hope Alison isn't always delegated to the role of follower. I get that she has a lot on her mind right now, though.

Anyway, so far I'm loving the book. And also, I FREAKING LOVE SINGULARITY! She brings the brightness and fun to the book that Ali seems to have lost for now. She's so cute!

Rhianon Rosano

Hi, Rhianon! I'm glad you're enjoying our take on Dazzler. I'm sure at a different time Alison would make a great team leader (and has) but you're right that at this particular moment in her life, and with this team (they've all been leaders at one time or another) it's just not the role she's filling. But we hope you'll enjoy the path she's on regardless.

Singularity is, indeed, the cutest. There should probably be some kind of official announcement made. Maybe a shiny medal of some kind.

Dear creative staff of A-FORCE,

Thank You! Thank you for taking the seeds of ideas from your readers, mixing them around, making them yours, then running with them! I just read A-FORCE #5 and ran into pleasant surprise after pleasant

surprise in your comic. Then I read the letters page and discovered that I was not the only one bothered by how the X-men left Alison, and your response. I just had to say thank you for reading the letters, listening, and acting on our suggestions. P.S.: How did you know that the candidates for President and I would be in Oregon when your comic came out? Oh, the mysteries of Marvel Magic.

Make Mine Marvel!
Larry Christison

Hey, Larry!

So glad you enjoyed A-FORCE #5, it's one of my favorite comics I've ever gotten to be a part of, so it's nice when others feel the same. I have lots of awesome plans for Ali, I hope we'll get to see them come to fruition! I cannot claim any advance knowledge of "Presidential Candidate locations," just that Oregon is awesome and Astoria is a place I've always been intrigued by, there's something magical about it.

Kelly,

This female Thor/Dazzler is kind of confusing to me. Where are all the other surviving Thors from Battleworld, and how come she survived? Why did they put her on the cover having beaten all the rest of A-Force--when that never happened? Seems to me, just off the cuff, that Molly "Bruiser" Hayes, would fit A-Force a biiiit better than Nico Minoru; or is she a little young? Still, I liked this issue; more than usual issues; Ben Caldwell has lines! And it's only a matter of time before he's an artist on an ongoing on an ongoing basis!

Cheers,
Andrew J. Shaw

Hey, Andrew!

As explained in issue #5, Dazzler-Thor survived because when Battleworld broke apart, she was fighting Countess, who was able to warp reality to survive the breakdown of her universe. That pulled them both into the surviving universe that is Prime Earth. Dazzler-Thor was just accidentally caught up in

Countess's reality-warping wake. And, unfortunately, as revealed by now, while fighting they encountered a good deal of Terrigen Mists. As for the cover, it probably would have been more appropriate for issue #5, but as you guys know these covers and solicits are done well in advance, and sometimes don't exactly match up with the interior content. We all loved it anyway, though, and thought you guys would too. I don't know why Nico wouldn't fit A-Force. Her skill set has been totally invaluable to the team--maybe more than any other member. And while I love Molly Hayes (SO MUCH!) I do think she's a bit young for this team, and perhaps more importantly, she has a skill set already well-covered here by others (i.e. we're good on super-powered punching!). We can agree on one thing for sure--Ben Caldwell is the best around.

Hi, A-FORCE Team!

I've been loving A-Force since the beginning, but the introduction of Dazzler-Thor has made it even better still. She is fantastic and her armour is amazing (and doesn't involve boob-plate--yay!). Please keep her around somehow--not necessarily in A-FORCE, but somewhere within the Marvel Universe. There must be some corner of some verse somewhere where she can find a home and have adventures, in her own or someone else's comic. Please!

Jane Jayne

Hey, Jane!

I ADORE Dazzler-Thor...though by now you know that she is gone, and I assure you that nobody is more upset she's gone than me (especially after Ben designed her so beautifully). That said, I did build in a fail-safe so I could maybe bring her back...fingers crossed that the stars will align and I CAN find a new place for her to hang her hat, even if not in A-Force. ;)

Much love, my beautiful A-Corps doves!

Kelly

T
E
R
R
O
R

A-FORCE 9

CIVIL WAR II

FEATURING...



CAPTAIN MARVEL



MEDUSA



DAZZLER



SINGULARITY

MARVEL

